



NEWS RELEASE

CWN Reveals 2017 Croatian Women of Influence Award Winners

2nd Annual Award recognizes accomplished leaders from eight countries

Toronto, ON, Canada & Zagreb, Republic Croatia, December 15, 2016 – The Croatian Women’s Network/Mreža Hrvatskih Žena is pleased to announce that 26 winners have been selected to receive the coveted [Croatian Women of Influence Award](#) and [Future Leaders Award](#), which will be conferred at a gala event on International Women’s Day Tuesday, March 8th in Zagreb, Republic of Croatia.

“Elevating, celebrating and connecting distinguished Croatian women globally has a tremendously positive impact on award winners and the communities that they reside in,” said Caroline Spivak, Founder of Croatian Women’s Network and the Croatian Women of Influence awards. “We are committed to showcasing the important contributions of Croatian women in all facets of society.”

Winners were drawn from seventy-five nominations representing Austria, Belgium, Bosnia & Hercegovina, Canada, Republic of Croatia, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Switzerland and United States of America.

The Croatian Women of Influence Award recognizes leadership, innovation and community impact of women of Croatian ancestry and will be conferred to 22 distinguished women from the Republic of Croatia and the vast Croatian diaspora. A companion Future Leaders award will be conferred to three enterprising young women under the age of 20 who have demonstrated extraordinary talent at an early age. “Our goal is to support these accomplished young women and provide the opportunity to partner with a network champion or mentor to assist them in developing their projects and future aspirations,” said Spivak.

Upcoming awards will also feature the first-ever honorary “Friends of Croatia” award which will be conferred upon Dr. Esther Gitman who has tirelessly advocated for truth about the life and work of Blessed Cardinal Alojzije Viktor Stepinac.

Awards will be presented at a gala event on International Women’s Day, Wednesday, March 8, 2016 in Zagreb, Republic of Croatia following a day-long conference: Advancing Women, Advancing Economies. *Realize the Potential!*

[Inaugural awards](#), recognizing women from Croatia and from Croatian diaspora communities in Australia, Canada, Germany, South America, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the United Arab Emirates, were conferred in March 2016.

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The Croatian Women's Network (www.CroatianWomensNetwork.org) is a global forum that celebrates, champions and connects Croatian women. CNW and the Croatian Women of Influence Award connect distinguished women of Croatian ancestry from around the world to celebrate their achievements and to inspire, champion and mentor younger generations.

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